

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 IO-04 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01

NIC-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAB-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /075 W

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P R 171346Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3541

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR MPEC DEL

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EG, UR

SUBJ: FAHMY'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

1. SUMMARY. BY CONCEDING TO THE EGYPTIAN DESIRE FOR A  
BREZHNEV VISIT TO EGYPT, THE SOVIETS SEEM CLEARLY TO HAVE  
INDICATED SOME WILLINGNESS TO REPAIR THEIR RELATIONSHIP  
WITH CAIRO. BUT THE REMARKS EXCHANGED BY GROMYKO AND  
FAHMY AT A LUNCHEON OCOTBER 16 (PRAVDA OCTOBER 17,  
SUMMARY TASS ENGLISH WIRE OCTOBER 16) APPEAR COOL AND GIVE  
NO INDICATION OF SIGNIFICANT SOVIET-EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT ON  
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SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. ON THE ME THAT EGYPTIANS HAVE SO FAR

AVOIDED OPEN SUPPORT FOR THE SOVIET FORMULAS CALLING FOR AN URGENT REOPENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TO ACHIEVE A "RADICAL SOLUTION" TO THE ME PROBLEM.  
END SUMMARY.

2. ASIDE FROM THE JOINT SOVIET-EGYPTIAN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT BREZHNEV WILL VISIT CAIRO IN JANUARY AND THAT THE MAIN AGENDA TOPICS FOR THE CAIRO SUMMIT HAVE BEEN AGREED (PRAVDA, OCTOBER 16, TASS ENGLISH WIRE OCTOBER 15), WE SEE NOTHING SO FAR IN SOVIET PRESS ACCOUNTS TO INDICATE ANY MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN IMPROVING SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS.

3. ON THE CONTRARY GROMYKO'S REFERENCE IN HIS REMARKS OCTOBER 16 TO AN AGREED SET OF PROBLEMS WHICH "MAY BECOME THE SUBJECT OF TALKS AND APPROPRIATE AGREEMENTS" AND FAHMY'S ASSURING RESPONSE THAT "THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS BETWEEN EGYPT AND THE USSR WHICH SHOULD BE DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE" BOTH APPEAR TO OFFER IMPLICIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT DIFFERENCES REMAIN.

4. THERE ALSO APPEARS TO BE A CONTINUING SIGN OF SOVIET COOLNESS IN GROMYKO'S POINTED REMINDER TO HIS GUEST THAT THE USSR HAS CONSTANTLY SUPPORTED STRENGTHENED AND BROADENED TIES WITH EGYPT AND "MORE THAN ONE HAS REAFFIRMED THIS BY CONCRETE ACTIONS."

5. TASS'S ACCOUNT OF THE STATEMENT BY GROMYKO AND FAHMY ON THE ME GIVES NO HINT THAT FAHMY RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO GROMYKO'S STRONG PITCH FOR AN URGENT RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE AND HIS ASSERTION THAT THERE MUST BE NO DELAYING OF MEASURES WHICH WILL LEAD TO A "RADICAL POLITICAL SETTLEMENT" OF THE ME PROBLEM. ACCORDING TO TASS, FAHMY RESPONDED NONCOMMITALLY, SAYING EGYPT HIGHLY VALUES THE PRINCIPLED LINE OF THE USSR SUPPORTING THE ARAB CAUSE AND THAT EGYPTIANS WILL NOT FORGET THAT THE SOVIETS STOOD BY THEM IN THE MOST DIFFICULT TIMES. MATLOCK

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